27 June 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Training

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m FROM}$: OTR/IS/OBF

SUBJECT: Report on Completion of Vietnam Area Course #8-69

1. Basic Data

Thirty-four (34) persons completed Vietnam Area Course #8-69, the 12th in the series. The course was conducted at Head-quarters 12-16 May 1969.

2. Changes in Schedule

On rather short notice, I delivered the lecture on "Recent Vietnamese History 1940-54" because the scheduled speaker, had not returned, contrary to expectations, from an overseas TDY.

Once again, did not show up for his presentation. Whatever the reason, this is most distressing from my point of view because his talk is an authoritative summation of the problem of Vietnam, as well as the conclusion of the course.

regular presentation on "U.S. Policy Choices" was especially stimulating this time because it came the day after President Nixon's speech of May 14 on Vietnam.

very carefully compared the President's 8-point proposal with the N.L.F.'s 10-point program and concluded that on only one issue - an international body or a provisional government - was there any substantive difference.

President has virtually accepted the N.L.F. position. It was an

impressive talk that the students obviously appreciated.

h. Critiques

The critiques, written by 31 students, were not very informative or exciting. One student did observe, apparently in

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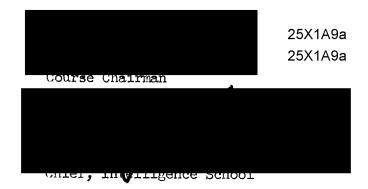
connection with talk, that "controversial speakers are the most interesting, especially when they are visitors to the Agency." On this last point, another student said that "The use of outside specialists is excellent. (is) outstanding, very good."

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5. A Problem

Before the course began I requested office to arrange to have the blackboard and chalk trays in Room 1-A-13 cleaned. Though I know he tried, he was notable to do this. GSA has no responsibility in the matter. I refused to clean them myself and would not ask our clerical and secretarial personnel to do the job. I think this problem should be put on someone's agenda.



Distribution:

Orig - Adse (with 2 atts); Return to IS

2 - Exec. Assistant